

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 21, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1906

Introduced by Assembly Member Blakeslee

January 25, 2006

An act to amend 20030 of the Government Code, relating to public employees' retirement. An act to add Article 4.3 (commencing with Section 8583) to Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code, relating to emergency services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1906, as amended, Blakeslee. ~~State employees' retirement.~~ *Catastrophic Disaster Planning and Emergency Response Commission.*

Existing law establishes the California Emergency Council consisting of a specified membership to act as an advisory body to the Governor in times of emergency in order to minimize the effects of emergencies by recommending ameliorative action to the Governor and, among other things, the assignment of any responsibility, service, or activity relative to emergencies or emergency planning to a state agency having duties related to that responsibility, service, or activity.

This bill would create the Catastrophic Disaster Planning and Emergency Response Commission comprised of a specified membership to make policy recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature on improvements and funding in the evaluation of the state's emergency preparedness at all levels of government in response to a future, worst-case, catastrophic disaster and to focus on coordination, communication, and preparedness in reacting to a catastrophic disaster.

The bill would also require the commission to make a specified report to the Governor and the Legislature not later than July 1, 2008.

~~The Public Employees' Retirement Law prescribes the rights and benefits of the members of the Public Employees' Retirement System. The law defines an employer for these purposes.~~

~~This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to these provisions.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 *SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
2 *following:*

3 *(a) Recent reports and hearings have demonstrated that*
4 *California is better prepared than other states when it comes to*
5 *disaster planning. However, many questions remain regarding*
6 *California's ability to respond to a worst case scenario—a major*
7 *earthquake, a tsunami, or a terrorist attack—that would result in*
8 *extensive casualties, destruction of public and private*
9 *infrastructure, and the need for mass evacuations.*

10 *(b) As we mark the 100-year anniversary of the great 1906*
11 *San Francisco earthquake, we recall the inadequate planning of*
12 *the past that resulted in terrible loss of life and property. Looking*
13 *forward, we resolve to ensure that the necessary state and local*
14 *disaster planning and response resources are able to minimize*
15 *the inevitable, future impacts of a catastrophic natural or*
16 *manmade disaster.*

17 *SEC. 2. Article 4.3 (commencing with Section 8583) is added*
18 *to Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to read:*

19
20 *Article 4.3. Catastrophic Disaster Planning and Emergency*
21 *Response Commission*
22

23 8583. *The Catastrophic Disaster Planning and Emergency*
24 *Response Commission is hereby created in state government.*

25 8583.1. *The purpose of the commission shall be limited to*
26 *making policy recommendations to the Governor and the*
27 *Legislature on improvements and funding in the evaluation of*
28 *California's preparedness at all levels of government in response*

1 *to a future, worst-case, catastrophic disaster—not emergency*
2 *planning in general.*

3 *8583.2. The focus of the commission shall encompass the*
4 *evaluation of coordination, communication, and preparedness to*
5 *react to a catastrophic disaster. The commission shall do all of*
6 *the following:*

7 *(a) Review the state’s emergency management capability,*
8 *including, but not limited to, all of the following:*

9 *(1) Hazard preparedness.*

10 *(2) Catastrophic planning, including mass evacuation.*

11 *(3) Emergency personnel training.*

12 *(4) Disaster response.*

13 *(5) Disaster recovery.*

14 *(b) Evaluate the State Resources Information Management*
15 *System.*

16 *(c) Evaluate the communications capabilities and*
17 *jurisdictional issues that may exist as barriers to effective*
18 *coordination between both of the following:*

19 *(1) Local and state emergency personnel and agencies.*

20 *(2) State and federal emergency personnel and agencies.*

21 *(d) Evaluate the statewide coordinated emergency alert and*
22 *warning systems, including the potential of public and private*
23 *partnerships for public education and disaster response*
24 *awareness.*

25 *(e) Conduct analysis on the expenditure of the state share of*
26 *federal homeland security funds to ensure adequate state and*
27 *local coordination.*

28 *(f) Review the role of federal government, as to expectations*
29 *and resources, in the event of future state disasters.*

30 *8583.3. The commission shall be comprised of the following*
31 *members:*

32 *(a) Three commissioners appointed by the Governor from*
33 *each of the following:*

34 *(1) A member of a county board of supervisors.*

35 *(2) A mayor or a city council member.*

36 *(3) A representative from the California Highway Patrol.*

37 *(b) A commissioner appointed by the President pro Tempore*
38 *of the Senate.*

39 *(c) A commissioner appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly.*

1 (d) *The Director of Emergency Services or his or her*
2 *designee.*

3 (e) *The Director of Homeland Security or his or her designee.*

4 8583.4. *The members and staff of the Seismic Safety*
5 *Commission shall advise and assist the commission in the*
6 *conduct of its work.*

7 8583.5. *Members of the commission shall receive per diem*
8 *and reimbursement for expenses and travel at the same rate as*
9 *state employees incurred while in the performance of their*
10 *official duties.*

11 8583.6. *The commission shall make a report of findings and*
12 *recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature not later*
13 *than July 1, 2008.*

14 ~~SECTION 1. Section 20030 of the Government Code is~~
15 ~~amended to read:~~

16 ~~20030. "Employer" means the state, the university, a school~~
17 ~~employer, and a contracting agency employing an employee.~~